

State of California  
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency  
Department of Transportation

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

10-SJ/Sta-132, KP SJ-9.4/11.5, Sta-0.0/R3.9  
(PM SJ-5.8/7.1, Sta-0.0/2.4)  
Action Item

Prepared by:  
Gary R. Winters  
Chief  
Division of Environmental Analysis

CTC Meeting: October 3, 2002

Reference No.: 2.2a.(3)

*Original Signed By:*  
ROBERT L. GARCIA  
Chief Financial Officer  
October 1, 2002

**SUMMARY - NOTICE OF PREPARATION**  
**STATE ROUTE 132 IN SAN JOAQUIN AND STANISLAUS COUNTIES – WIDEN TO FOUR-**  
**LANE EXPRESSWAY NEAR MODESTO**

**10-SJ/Sta-132, KP SJ-9.4/11.5, Sta-0.0/R3.9 (PM SJ-5.8/7.1, Sta-0.0/2.4)**

From postmile 5.8 to 7.1 in San Joaquin County, and postmile 0.0 to 2.4 in Stanislaus County.

**Proposed Action:**

Upgrade this section of State Route 132 from a two-lane conventional highway to a four-lane expressway, modify the State Route 132/33 interchange and controlling access to State Route 132.

**Programming:**

The project is programmed in the 2002 STIP with Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) funds of \$2,000,000 and RIP funds for \$767,000 for support. Additionally, the project is programmed with IIP and RIP funding for Right of way capital totaling \$767,000. Total project cost is \$18,604,000 with additional funding to come from the 2004 STIP. Construction is scheduled for FY 2005/06.

**Alternatives Being Considered:**

- No-Build
- Use the existing two-lane highway as two westbound lanes and construct two new eastbound lanes as divided four-lane expressway with limited access
- Construct a divided four-lane expressway with limited access on new alignment
- Construct a divided four-lane expressway with controlled access on new alignment

**Potential Significant Environmental Effects:**

- Changes in agricultural use
- Impacts to cultural resources
- Increased noise levels

**Proposed Measures to Minimize Harm:**

- Use fill to effectively cover archaeological site in order to avoid disturbance

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION

TO: California Transportation CommissionFROM: California Department of Transportation

(Lead Agency)

2015 E. Shields, Suite 100

(Address)

Fresno, CA 93726

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement  
[References: Division 13, Public Resources Code, Section 21080.4 (State);  
40 C.F.R. 1501.7 and 1508.22 (Federal)]

This is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation, (Caltrans) in coordination with the Federal Highways Administration, (FHWA) will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an EIR/EIS for the Vernalis Expressway project described in the following paragraphs. Your participation as a responsible/cooperating agency is requested in the preparation and review of this document.

The proposed project is located on State Route (SR) 132 from the SR 132/33 Separation Overhead (Bridge 29-167L) in Stanislaus County to 0.16 km (0.1 m) west of the San Joaquin Bridge (Bridge 38-45) in Stanislaus County. The project is approximately 5.63 km (3.7 mi.) in length. It is anticipated that the project would improve traffic safety and operations by reducing congestion and accidents. Alternatives under consideration include:

- **Alternative 1** – Using the existing two-lane highway as two westbound lanes and constructing two new eastbound lanes as a divided, four-lane expressway with limited access.
- **Alternative 2** - Constructing a divided, four-lane expressway with limited access on new alignment.
- **Alternative 3** - Constructing a divided, four-lane freeway with controlled access on new alignment.
- **Alternative 4** - No Build alternative.

Incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives will be design variations of the existing SR 132/33 interchange.

A larger geographic area from Interstate 580 (I-580) to SR 99 will be examined to evaluate indirect and cumulative impacts, and ensure full consideration of alternatives for the full length of the corridor.

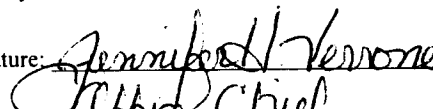
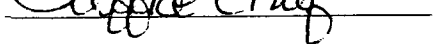
Probable environmental concerns include: impacts to wetlands and sensitive species, changes in agricultural land use, aesthetic/visual resource impacts, construction impacts to businesses and residents, changes in traffic circulation patterns, impacts to cultural resources, increased noise levels, air and water quality, hazardous waste issues, and community impacts.

We need to know the applicable permit and environmental review requirements of your agency and the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR/EIS prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project. Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. Please send your response and direct any comments or questions regarding this project to Bobi Lyon at the address shown above, or telephone at 559-243-8178. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Date: August 8, 2002

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

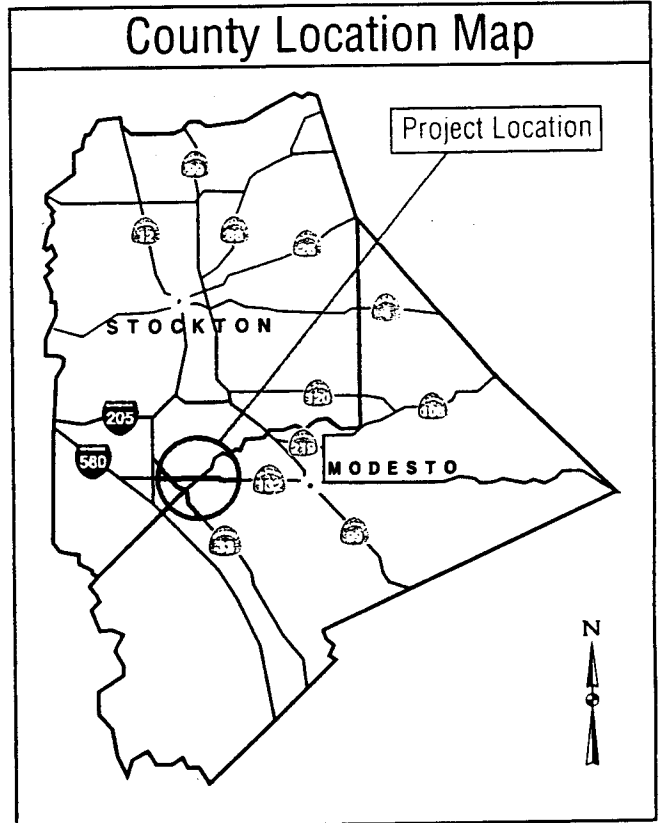
# San Joaquin/Stanislaus - Route 132

## Vernalis Expressway Project

State Location Map



County Location Map



Project Location Map

